ENVISION BENEFITS

Improved Communication, Consensus Building, Community Recognition

PROVIDES BETTER COMMUNICATION & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The Envision process promulgates mindful questions in the design process, which saves your agency money over the life cycle of the project. Envision also improves communication among project team(s). Better project management also saves money.

ENHANCES CONSENSUS BUILDING

Envision opens the lines of communication among stakeholders to foster consensus building. When you let the Envision framework guide your work, you learn from others’ perspectives, from their accomplishments, and their lessons learned.

FOSTERS CRITICAL THINKING THAT LEADS TO INNOVATION

Envision fosters better dialogue among diverse stakeholders. It forces you to think critically, brainstorm with others, and think differently—leading to more innovative projects.

IMPROVES PUBLIC IMAGE

In the eyes of the public, when you use Envision and work closely with the public to deliver infrastructure projects, it shows that you are willing to go above and beyond—taking their concerns to heart to build better civil infrastructure, thereby, meeting their needs.

ENHANCES COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Envision incorporates your community’s priorities into your project(s). The framework is often used by local, city, and state governments to reach their sustainability goals and objectives. When you bake Envision into your processes—like LA and NYC have done—you achieve better civil infrastructure that will be appreciated for generations.
When you use an ENV SP to guide your civil infrastructure project(s), they often flag instances where you can save money. That allows savings over the life cycle of the project. ENV SPs often suggest newer and more sustainable materials and products that lead to savings as well.

An ENV SP can identify expenditures that are the most impactful, especially with regard to green investments in sustainability, resilience, and equity — leading to long-term savings.

When you go through the verification process from the start of the project and carry it through the project’s life cycle, data shows you can save money. The collaboration involved in the Envision process fosters difficult but essential conversations with stakeholders. It forces you to think differently to problem-solve and to embrace newer ways of innovating. Those conversations bring about sustainable and resilient solutions. If you wait to apply Envision verification after a project is complete, you will likely not experience cost-savings. That is why ISI recommends verification at the start of a project.

Consider what occurred with COVID-19. The infrastructure we have in place today wasn’t designed or built to withstand a pandemic. As a result, our economies took a huge hit and so did our health and well-being. Had we built with sustainability and resilience our agencies would’ve been better equipped to absorb the shock and bounce back. We cannot afford to let that happen again. We must learn from the past and prioritize sustainability, resiliency, and equity. If we fail to do so in the future, we could end up experiencing the similar issues and hardships.

That means now, more than ever, is a crucial time to embrace Envision sustainability and resilience. We should not overlook their importance. The financial component is too critical. Think about COVID; we didn’t design and build with sustainability or resilience. As a result, we are suffering dire consequences in terms of lives lost and economic downturns. Using Envision (and ENV SPs to guide projects) will allow for better decisions about the investments made, especially when it comes to scarce resources.
The value of Envision verification is in the process itself. Going through verification forces your project team(s) to have tough conversations with stakeholders, including the community and elected officials.

When you work closely with diverse groups:
- you embrace different viewpoints and build consensus;
- that consensus-building helps project teams solve major issues;
- it helps your team(s) define common ways of designing and building; and,
- brings the industry together to solve legacy problems that have plagued the architecture, engineering, and construction (a/e/c) industry for decades.

Those critical conversations then drive innovation and drive solutions that are sustainable, resilient, and equitable. Overall, verifying projects helps you achieve better outcomes, opening the way for state-of-the-art alternatives.

THE AWARD
The award is just the cherry on top. It provides proof to your stakeholders and community that you designed and delivered the right project the right way.

The real value comes from lessons learned through gathering the documentation, collaborating with other stakeholders, and discovering sustainable, resilient, equitable practices that can be applied to all projects. In other words, the verification process is a great way to learn. Whenever you verify a project you learn something new and take that knowledge with you to your next project.

The verification process and award can put a green stamp of approval on your project. Without it, your community has only your word. They want proof!

The verification process and award provide that proof. It shows you are passionate about building and delivering sustainable, resilient, and equitable infrastructure. It proves that you listened to their concerns and were committed to investing in building better infrastructure.

Envision verification is an excellent project management tool that explores tough issues with stakeholders. It helps project teams define the core values, and it helps you structure the team and orient them in the right direction.

By taking part in Envision verification, you are answering the public’s call for better infrastructure.

www.sustainableinfrastructure.org